

Attitudes towards ageing in elder care

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Background: The present study examined if attitudes towards ageing depend on own experiences with old and frail persons.

Methods: The sample comprised $N = 127$ participants in the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg (85 female, 42 male; mean age: $M = 46.49$, $SD = 18.61$), subdivided in three groups: professional carers, informal carers, and individuals who had never provided old-age care. Participants were asked to indicate their views about age in general and their expectations about their own ageing by use of a semi-structured questionnaire.

Findings: Professional and informal carers indicated a higher age as starting point of old age compared to non-carers. Further, professional carers mentioned more negative and less positive features of old age and had more concrete expectations about their own ageing compared to other participants.

Discussion: Results are discussed with regard to the relevance of attitudes towards ageing for individuals' well-being and for their caregiving for elderly persons.

150 words

Keywords: attitudes, ageing, elder care, informal carers, professional carers, well-being

Reference:

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